

In the Claims:

1 1. (currently amended) A press pad adapted for use in high
2 temperature pressing equipment, comprising a woven fabric
3 that includes an amount of at least one crosslinked
4 elastomer ~~selected from the group consisting of~~
5 ~~fluoroelastomers, fluorosilicone elastomers, comprising at~~
6 ~~least one of~~ first blend elastomers prepared by
7 crosslinking a mixture of a raw crude silicone rubber and
8 a raw crude fluorosilicone rubber, and second blend
9 elastomers prepared by crosslinking a mixture of a raw
10 crude silicone rubber and a raw crude fluorinated rubber,
11 wherein said amount is at least 10 weight percent of a
12 total weight of said press pad.

Claim 2 (canceled).

1 ²3. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said at least one crosslinked elastomer further
3 comprises at least one ~~of said fluoroelastomers.~~
4 fluoroelastomer.

1 ³4. (original) The press pad according to claim ²3, wherein said
2 at least one fluoroelastomer is an elastomer produced by
3 copolymerization of vinyl chloride with at least one of
4 hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene,
5 1-hydropentafluoropropylene, and perfluoromethylvinylether.

5. (original) The press pad according to claim 4³, wherein said at least one fluoroelastomer is an elastomer produced by terpolymerization of vinyl chloride with two of hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene, 1-hdropentafluoropropylene, and perfluoromethylvinylether.

6. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1, wherein said at least one crosslinked elastomer further comprises at least one ~~of said fluorosilicone elastomers.~~ elastomer.

7. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1, wherein said at least one crosslinked elastomer comprises at least one of said first blend elastomers.

8. (original) The press pad according to claim 7⁶, wherein said at least one first blend elastomer contains at least 10 weight percent of said fluorosilicone rubber with respect to a total weight of said first blend elastomer.

9. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1, wherein said at least one crosslinked elastomer comprises at least one of said second blend elastomers.

1 ⁹ 10. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said woven fabric comprises warp threads and weft
3 threads woven together, and at least said warp threads or
4 said weft threads include said amount of said at least one
5 crosslinked elastomer.

1 ¹⁰ 11. (previously presented) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said woven fabric comprises warp threads and weft
3 threads woven together, and at least said warp threads or
4 said weft threads include at least one metal.

1 ¹¹ 12. (original) The press pad according to claim ¹⁰ 11, wherein at
2 least said warp threads or said weft threads comprise
3 threads consisting of said at least one metal.

1 ¹² 13. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said woven fabric comprises warp threads and weft
3 threads woven together, and at least said warp threads or
4 said weft threads respectively comprise a thread core
5 consisting of a high-strength temperature-resistant yarn
6 material, and a coating sheath that covers said core and
7 that consists of said at least one crosslinked elastomer.

1 ¹³ 14. (original) The press pad according to claim ¹² 13, wherein
2 said yarn material of said thread core consists of at least
3 one metal.

1 ¹⁴ 15. (original) The press pad according to claim ¹³ 14, wherein
2 said thread core consists of a plurality of individual
3 filaments of said at least one metal.

1 ¹⁵ 16. (original) The press pad according to claim ¹⁴ 15, wherein
2 said at least one metal is selected from copper, brass,
3 high-grade alloy steel, and stainless steel, wherein said
4 filaments are strands of said metal, and wherein said core
5 is a multi-strand core made up of said strands.

1 ¹⁶ 17. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim ¹² 13,
2 wherein said yarn material of said thread core is a
3 material having a higher modulus of elasticity than said at
4 least one crosslinked elastomer.

1 ¹⁷ 18. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said woven fabric further contains a metal powder
3 mixed into said at least one crosslinked elastomer.

1 ¹⁸ 19. (previously presented) A press pad adapted for use in high
2 temperature pressing equipment, comprising a woven fabric
3 that includes an amount of at least one fluoroelastomer
4 produced by copolymerization of vinyl chloride with at
5 least one of hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene,
6 1-hydropentafluoropropylene, and perfluoromethylvinylether,
7 wherein said amount is at least 10 weight percent of a
8 total weight of said press pad.

19
1 20. (previously presented) The press pad according to claim 19;
2 wherein said at least one fluoroelastomer is produced by
3 terpolymerization of vinyl chloride with two of
4 hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene,
5 1-hydropentafluoropropylene, and perfluoromethylvinylether.

20
1 21. (previously presented) A press pad for use in a hot press,
2 consisting of a fabric that includes at least 10 weight
3 percent of a crosslinked blend elastomer produced by
4 crosslinking a mixture of a silicone rubber and a
5 fluorinated rubber or a mixture of a silicone rubber and a
6 fluorinated silicone rubber.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]